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Location: Calabasas, California
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Regarding: Restoring Internet Freedom
Notice of Proposed Rulemaking
WC Docket No. 17-108

I do not agree with the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking titled "Restoring Internet Freedom". The Net Neutrality rules currently in place are the right vehicle for managing the infrastructure upon which the new internet economy is built.

I disagree with the FCC's conjecture that those who provide internet telecommunication services should not be treated as a public utility. In fact, the service they provide is indeed that of a public utility. The internet is the communication vehicle by which the "internet economy" has developed and thrived. But the internet communications pathway - provided by what is correctly viewed as public utilities - is not the economic center of this growth, as the FCC would contend. By analogy, the internet pathway is the road upon which users travel to the businesses where commerce takes place. Just as we treat roads as public infrastructure, the internet pathway has proven itself to be a new form of invaluable public infrastructure. For the businesses serviced by this public infrastructure to survive and thrive, and for new businesses to emerge, the infrastructure must be appropriately regulated to keep the roadway open and fair.

We cannot look back on the past 20 years for the roadmap to future success. The past 20 years of success has its roots in disruptive innovation. Very few people 20 years predicted the success that is now obvious. This is what disruptive innovation is about: it is not obvious at first, but at some point it becomes completely obvious and a core part of doing business. Likewise, the internet is no longer driven by disruption: it is now a core part of doing business. The internet pathway is the infrastructure on which the internet economy is built. For the internet economy to continue to thrive and grow, we must recognize public infrastructure for what it is, and treat it accordingly. The Net Neutrality rules currently in place are the right vehicle for managing this public infrastructure and moving the internet economy into its next phase of growth. Conversely, the Restoring Internet Freedom NPR is a massive step backwards.